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to hover even more closely over our country, and as he describes in subsequent chapters the struggles our government made to prevent us from becoming enmeshed in the toils, we wonder at the patience and fortitude of our great President during that trying period.

Through the "Lusitania" crisis and the months that followed during which we were attempting to extract from an unwilling Germany an acknowledgment of her wrong-doing and a promise of atonement, through the Sussex episode and her final pledge of amendment, he takes us, citing step by step the documents in evidence, the official correspondence of the two countries, until finally he brings us to the parting of the ways, Germany's decree of February, 1917, of ruthless submarine warfare, followed by our assumption of armed neutrality and at last on April 6, 1917 by our recognition of the existence of a state of war.

The book as a whole constitutes an admirable résumé of the events and discussions that have led to our participation in the war, and in so accurate and concise a form as to make it a welcome addition to the library of any person interested in the great events it deals with.

RALEIGH C. MINOR.

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WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, by J. E. Rhodes, 2nd. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917, pp. 300).

Statutes imposing liability without fault upon employers in certain occupations for injuries to their employees are, in the United States, a development of the last decade, and it was not until March 6, 1917 that the federal Supreme Court determined that workmen's compensation laws were not in conflict with the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Mr. Rhodes' book is the first which attempts "to give a brief history of the Workmen's Compensation movement in this country, and an outline of the principles on which the system is based" within a single compass, and it will thus, for the time being at least, have some value. Previous studies like Bradbury's are either too bulky and based too much on cases, or, from the economic standpoint, are too scattered.

Mr. Rhodes' book, however, need not deter intending authors since it fails to furnish any adequate economic or ethical rationale for vicarious liability; the chapter on constitutionality is very cursory and misses the fundamental point that the legislation, in order to be valid, must be justified as an exercise of the police power of the state, and there is but slight reference to the host of interesting and intricate points arising in English cases, not without great importance in the interpretation and administration of American statutes by courts and industrial commissions.

The scope of Mr. Rhodes' book can be shown by the chapter headings: "Introductory Survey;" "Industrial Accidents and Accident Insurance;" "European Background;" "The Agitation in the United States;" "Early Attempts in the United States;" "The Constitutionality of Compensation Legislation;" "Compensation Legislation in the United States;" "The Insurance of the Compensation Obligation;" "The Ad-

ministration of Compensation Laws," and "Some Social Aspects of Workmen's Compensation." In the Appendix are given a clear history of the movement in New York which, as is well known, was checked by the *Ives* case; a reprint of the pamphlet of the American Association for Labor Legislation recommending "Standards for Workmen's Compensation Laws," and a digest of existing state statutes which is too brief to be of any great service. This last feature is already very adequately covered by the Digest issued at intervals by the Workmen's Compensation Publicity Bureau, New York City.

Mr. Rhodes includes a serviceable but far from complete bibliography. The student, nevertheless, will doubtless be able to use his references and from them trace all material of value on the subject.

L. R.